

HOUSE BILL 1090

G2, L2

11r2895
CF SB 509

By: **Prince George's County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2011

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Prince George's County – Ethics Reforms**

3 **PG 425–11**

4 FOR the purpose of specifying that the ethics provisions required to be enacted by
5 Prince George's County shall contain certain provisions; requiring that the
6 provisions prohibit a person from lobbying the county government for
7 contingent compensation; requiring that the provisions prohibit the county
8 government from issuing a credit card to certain persons; requiring that the
9 provisions prohibit an elected county official from soliciting certain persons to
10 enter into a business relationship with, or provide anything of value to, certain
11 other persons; requiring that the provisions establish a board of ethics composed
12 of a certain number of members and having an executive director; requiring the
13 provisions to provide for an ethics advisor who shall perform certain duties; and
14 generally relating to ethics reform in Prince George's County.

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
16 Article – State Government
17 Section 15–807(d)
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2010 Supplement)

20 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
21 Article – State Government
22 Section 15–808
23 Annotated Code of Maryland
24 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2010 Supplement)

25 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
26 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Article – State Government

2 15–807.

3 (d) (1) [In] THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES TO Prince George’s County[,
4 “local].

5 (2) “LOCAL official” includes:

6 [(1)] (I) each member of the Board of License Commissioners;

7 [(2)] (II) the chief inspector and any other inspector of the Board of
8 License Commissioners;9 [(3)] (III) the administrator of the Board of License Commissioners;
10 and

11 [(4)] (IV) the attorney to the Board of License Commissioners.

12 (3) THE CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST PROVISIONS REQUIRED UNDER
13 § 15–803(A)(1) OF THIS SUBTITLE:14 (I) SHALL PROHIBIT THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT FROM
15 ISSUING A CREDIT CARD TO AN ELECTED COUNTY OFFICIAL OR A MEMBER OF
16 THE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD; AND17 (II) SHALL PROHIBIT AN ELECTED COUNTY OFFICIAL FROM
18 DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY SOLICITING A PERSON TO ENTER INTO A BUSINESS
19 RELATIONSHIP WITH OR PROVIDE ANYTHING OF VALUE TO A SPECIFIC
20 INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY, IF THE PERSON BEING SOLICITED IS SEEKING:21 1. THE SUCCESS OR DEFEAT OF COUNTY
22 LEGISLATION;

23 2. A COUNTY CONTRACT; OR

24 3. ANY OTHER COUNTY BENEFIT.

25 (4) THE LOBBYING PROVISIONS REQUIRED UNDER § 15–803(A)(3)
26 OF THIS SUBTITLE SHALL PROHIBIT A PERSON FROM BEING ENGAGED FOR
27 LOBBYING PURPOSES FOR COMPENSATION THAT IS DEPENDENT IN ANY
28 MANNER ON THE OUTCOME OF EXECUTIVE OR LEGISLATIVE ACTION BEFORE
29 THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

30 (5) THE COUNTY’S ETHICS ENACTMENTS SHALL PROVIDE FOR:

1 **(I) A COUNTY BOARD OF ETHICS COMPOSED OF SEVEN**
2 **MEMBERS;**

3 **(II) A FULL-TIME EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE BOARD OF**
4 **ETHICS; AND**

5 **(III) AN ETHICS ADVISOR WHO:**

6 **1. SHALL MEET INDIVIDUALLY WITH EACH ELECTED**
7 **OFFICIAL OF THE COUNTY AT LEAST ANNUALLY, AND SHALL CONSULT MORE**
8 **FREQUENTLY IF INDICATED, TO ADVISE THE OFFICIAL REGARDING THE**
9 **REQUIREMENTS OF ANY APPLICABLE ETHICS LAW, RULE, OR STANDARD OF**
10 **CONDUCT;**

11 **2. SHALL ASSIST EACH ELECTED OFFICIAL OF THE**
12 **COUNTY IN PREPARING ANY AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER DOCUMENT REQUIRED TO BE**
13 **FILED UNDER THE COUNTY'S ETHICS ENACTMENTS;**

14 **3. SHALL CONDUCT ETHICS-RELATED BRIEFINGS**
15 **FOR THE BENEFIT OF ELECTED OFFICIALS OF THE COUNTY; AND**

16 **4. MAY PROVIDE INFORMATION TO ANY PERSON**
17 **REGARDING LAWS, RULES, AND OTHER STANDARDS OF ETHICAL CONDUCT**
18 **APPLICABLE TO ELECTED OFFICIALS OF THE COUNTY.**

19 15-808.

20 (a) If the Ethics Commission determines that a county or municipal
21 corporation has not complied with the requirements of this Part I, the Ethics
22 Commission may petition a circuit court with venue over the proceeding for
23 appropriate relief to compel compliance.

24 (b) The circuit court may grant any available equitable relief.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
26 October 1, 2011.